श्री सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा: हमारे पास कोई शिकायत ही नहीं है कि कहीं उसकी कमी है। अगर कहीं आपको मालूम है तो बता दीजिए हम दवाई भेज देंगे। हमने पूछा था लेकिन किसी भी स्टेट से हमारे पास डिमांड नहीं आई। जब पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा जितनी है उनके लिए बहुत है उनके पास। अगर कहीं है तो मुझे सूचना भेज दें मैं पूरी कर दूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Payment of Arrears of retired Teachers in Bareilly

†*541. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that teachers retired from Hafiz Siddique Punjabi Government Higher Secondary School, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh in June 1990, have not been paid their arrears even after a lapse of more than 11 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when these teachers would be paid their arrears; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the persons responsible for this criminal apathy and delay?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that Hafiz Siddique Punjabi Government Higher Secondary School, Bareilly is a Government aided school. Shri Nityananda Sharma, Asstt. Teacher in the School retired from service on 30.06.1990. The arrear bills for the sum of Rs. 77,324/- were submitted by the School to the district authorities in 1996-97. After removal of discrepancies in pay fixation and completion of papers, the Education Directorate received the bill on 14.03.2000. The payment has since been made. State Government has instituted an inquiry into the reasons of avoidable delay.

Promotion of wrestling and shooting

*544. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) what efforts are being made by Government to promote the traditional sports of wrestling and shooting; and

(b) what specific facilities are being provided/are proposed to be provided for providing education, employment and financial assistance to the emerging young talents in the above sports, besides imparting better training to them?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI): (a) The promotion of sports is primarily the responsibility of the concerned National Sports Federations/Associations, which are registered societies and autonomous in their functioning. Accordingly, the responsibility of promotion wrestling and shooting lies with the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) respectively. However, the Government supplements their efforts by providing assistance under its various schemes. Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations, assistance is provided 'subject to budgetary constraints' for training and participation in international tournaments abroad, for coaching/ training in India under the guidance of foreign and Indian coaches, for procurement of sports equipment, for organizing international tournaments in India, for holding national championships for sub-junior, junior and senior categories and also for providing requisite technical and scientific back up. Apart from this under Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Sports Promotional Schemes such as the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC), Special Area Games (SAG), SAI Training Centre (STC) and Centre of Excellence (COE), promissing trainees in the disciplines of wrestling and shooting are selected and trained.

(b) the ABSC, STC and SAG trainees admitted in the above disciplines are provided with Rs. 1000 annually for meeting their educational expenses apart from free board & lodging, plying kit, competition exposure, medical and insurance etc.

As per existing orders of the Department of Personnel and Training, 50% vacancies in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in various Ministries/Departments of the Government, direct recruitment to which is made otherwise than through UPSC, are to be filled up by meritorious sports persons relaxing the recruitment procedure, to the extent these including all other reservations under existing orders do not exceed 50% of the total number of vacancies proposed to be filled by direct recruitment. The relaxation is also provided in upper age limit upto a maximum of 5 years (10 years in the case of those belonging to Scheduled

Castes and Scheduled Tribes). Sports persons are also granted special increments for achieving excellence in the national and international sports events.

In additional to the above, cash awards are given under the Scheme of Special Awards to winners in International sports events and their coaches. Financial assistance is also provided under schemes for Pension to Meritorious Sports-Persons, Sports Scholarship Scheme, Scheme for assisting promising sports persons and supporting personnel and National Sports Development Funds.

Closure of chemical fertilizer units

†*545. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received recommendations for closing down some of the chemical fertilizer producing units;

(b) if so, from whom such recommendations have been received;

(c) the units which are proposed to be closed down as per those recommendations; and

(d) what decision has been taken by Government, so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has recommended the winding up of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) on 2.11.2001 and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) on 12.12.2001. Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) has confirmed the winding up recommendation of FCI on 9.4.2002. The appeal against BIFR's recommendation for winding up of HFC is with AAIFR.

In 1995, the Group of Ministers (GoM) has recommended the closure/ hiving off of the non-functional units of Haldia of HFC and Gorakhpur of FCI as they were not found techno-economically viable.

A GoM was set up in June, 2001 to examine the comprehensive rehabilitation/restructuring proposals of the four sick fertilizer public sector

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.